

REMARKS

While Applicants disagree with the decision rendered by the Board, to advance the prosecution Applicants have amended claim 24 in view of the Board's remarks. In particular, claim 24 has been amended based on the disclosure in the last paragraph on page 9 in the specification to further clarify that the outside layer surrounds the at least one inside layer. Also, claim 24 has been amended based on, e.g., the first paragraph on page 2 and the paragraph bridging pages 2-3 to recite that the cleansing bar motivates the child to wash or bathe. Claims 28 and 43-58 have been canceled so that the claims are directed to the use of a cleansing bar as shown in Fig. 1 (and cross-sectional Fig. 2) but not Figs. 3 and 4.

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants note that the Board indicated on page 4 of the Decision that Applicants' argument regarding claim 24 that Sonnenberg does not disclose an inside layer that is not visible from the outside is not persuasive because a layer between two layers reasonably can be considered an inside layer even if it is visible from the sides. In view of the above amendment of claim 24 further clarifying that the outside layer surrounds the at least one inside layer, Applicants submit that it should now be even clearer that the at least one inside layer is not visible from the sides, and thus the Board's reasoning does not apply to amended claim 24.

Further, Applicants note that the Board indicated in the first full paragraph on page 5 of the Decision that the claims do not require that the cleansing bar itself motivates a child to wash or bathe. In view of the above amendment of claim 24 further

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clarifying that the cleansing bar motivates the child to wash or bathe, Applicants submit that the Board's reasoning does not apply to amended claim 24.

Applicants submit that the present invention is patentable over Sonnenberg because the outside layer of the present invention surrounds the at least one inside layer, so only the outside layer can be seen from the outside (see Fig. 1).

In contrast, Sonnenberg specifically discloses in, e.g., its Abstract and its "Field of the Invention" section that its invention relates to multiphase soaps in which the individual phases are highly visible when viewed from the above and from the side, and Sonnenberg discloses at col. 2, lines 35-41 that such is a characteristic feature of its invention.

Moreover, Sonnenberg does not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious the requirement of the present invention that the cleansing bar motivates the child to wash or bathe, which is another reason why the present invention is patentable over Sonnenberg.

Thus, Applicants submit that the present invention is not obvious over Sonnenberg, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion


For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention is now in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss this application with the undersigned, he is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below.

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In view of the above, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bruce E. Kramer", written over a horizontal line.

Bruce E. Kramer
Registration No. 33,725

9112 Cherbourg Drive
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 299-8843
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